(c) For the Tenth Plan period there is a budgetary provision of Rs. 1270 crore under TUFS.

(d) As on June 30, 2003, the number of applications received statewise under TUFS is as follows:

State/Union Territory	No. of Application	State/Union Territory	No. of Application
Andhra Pradesh	42	Madhya Pradesh	14
Chandigarh	2	Maharashtra	186
Dadra Nagar Haveli	34	Nagaland	1
Daman & Diu	11	Orissa	1
Delhi	36	Punjab	298
Gujarat	470	Rajasthan	205
Haryana	133	Tamilnadu	653
Himachal Pradesh	7	Uttar Pradesh	38
Karnataka	79	West Bengal	130
Kerala	10	TOTAL:	2250

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO STARRED AND UNSTARRED QUESTIONS SET FOR THE 8TH AUGUST, 2003

Joint Venture of KIOCL

*281. SHRI MURLI DEORA: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) what are the names of the products currently being manufactured by a Joint Venture Company floated by Kudermukh Iron Ore Company Limited (KIOCL) alongwith two other public sector undertakings in June, 1995;

(b) the contribution to equity made by KIOCL to Joint Venture Co. and the reasons for non-allotment of shares;

*The sitting of the Rajya Sabha on Friday, the 8th August, 2003 was adjourned.

Answers to questions put down in the list for that day were laid on the Table of the house on wednesday, the 13th August, 2003.

(c) the amount of loan granted and the interest realized; and

(d) the reasons for grant of concessional loan and the loss caused in interest thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY): (a) Kudermukh Iron and Steel Company Limited (KISCO), a Joint Venture Company of Kudremukh Iron Ore Company Ltd. (KIOCL), Metallurgical & Engineering Consultants (India) Ltd. (MECON), and Metal Scrap Trade Corporation (MSTC), is currently manufacturing Low Sulphur Low Phospherous Pig Iron.

(b) KIOCL has contributed Rs. 50 crores towards equity in the joint venture and has been allotted 102 Equity Shares of Rs 10 each. The balance amount is with the Joint Venture Company as Share Application money pending allotment. Full allotment of shares is contingent on realisation of matching equity from the market. Till date, the market scenario has not been conducive for a public issue.

(c) and (d) A loan of Rs. 22750 lakhs given by KIOCL is outstanding as on 31st March, 2003 from the Joint Venture Company. This loan was given to enable KISCO to fully operationalise its pig iron production operations. The loan is granted subject to the condition that the interest accrued till March, 2003 shall be payable by KISCO to KIOCL in three annual instalments commencing from the year 2003-2004. The interest @ 10% per annum is higher than the standard rate made public under Section 49 of RBI Act, 1934 and hence, the loan is not concessional and as such, till date, there has not been a loss to KIOCL.

Expansion of area under Bamboo

*282. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have announced any scheme to expand the area under bamboo;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government propose to encourage State Governments to grow bamboo in degraded lands under their control; if so, the details thereof; and